

SW Seattle Paving: 35th/Avalon Way

Public meeting summary

Updated: 3/21/2019



Overview

On March 14, 2019, SDOT hosted a public meeting at the American Legion Post 160 of West Seattle. Staff presented the final design for the 35th Ave SW/SW Avalon Way Paving and what to expect during construction. Staff counted 47 attendees. Of the people who attended, 40 signed in.

Public Meeting

March 14, 2019 from 5:30 to 7 PM
American Legion Post 160 of West Seattle
3618 SW Alaska St
Seattle, WA 98126

Meeting purpose

- Provide project background on:
 - Benefits of paving and accompanying improvements
 - Context of SW Avalon Way and 35th Ave SW as arterials
- Share community feedback heard to date
- Inform the community of the final design, highlighting project elements such as paving, protected bike lanes, transit lane, spot parking removal, and center turn lane removal
- Explain how the design addresses needs and concerns we have heard from the community
- Share potential construction impacts
- Inform the community about how they can stay informed during construction

Community feedback

Many attendees expressed that they were excited about the project updates but concerned about potential construction impacts. Themes included:

- Bus stops – Attendees were concerned about changes to transit stops during and after construction, including:
 - Concerns about the distance between the transit stop near Luna Park Café and 35th Ave SW and SW Avalon Way after the bus stop was moved
 - Concerns about accessibility given that the transit stop on 35th Ave SW is on a hill
- Closed access from 30th Ave SW to SW Avalon Way - Some attendees expressed support for the closure because they feel it would be safer for traffic while other attendees expressed concern because of potential increased traffic congestion in the Youngstown area
- Construction impacts – Attendees shared their concerns about future construction, including traffic, water shut offs, and load zones/deliveries.
 - Some attendees shared concern about tenant parking and moving trucks on SW Avalon Way
 - Luna Park Café employees are concerned about the timing of water shut off. The project team explained that typically water shut offs occur at night and SPU would work with customers to determine the best shutoff time
 - Some details from the final configuration were not available so attendees were encouraged to contact the project team with specific questions about load zones in the post-construction configuration
 - Some attendees expressed concerns about traffic during construction. The project team explained that one lane would be open in each direction on the arterials.
- Other

- Some attendees expressed discontent with the lowered speed limit. The project team responded that this is a safety measure.
- The owner of an apartment requested a crosswalk on SW Avalon Way between 35th Ave SW and SW Genesee St. The project team responded that this would slow traffic too much during peak periods.
- One attendee requested a divider between the north and south travel lanes on SW Avalon Way just south of the bus stops to prevent cars crossing into oncoming traffic in order to get around a bus
- One attendee expressed concern about turning from the southbound lane on SW Avalon Way to get into their parking garage on SW Genesee St, due to the elimination of the middle two-way turn lane. They also expressed concern that left-turn traffic from southbound 35th Ave SW to eastbound SW Avalon Way restricted during peak hours and wondered how she would be able to access her building.

Written comments from the public meeting

- Super excited about the closure at 30th and Avalon! Some of my neighbors are worried it will send cut-through traffic to Dakota/Adams/Nevada. I don't think it will be an issue once people are used to the changes, but maybe can calm those worries with signage at 30th and Genesee sharing "No outlet/local access only." Hopefully you can coordinate with Google/Apple maps early on to avoid issues. Really hope implementation goes smoothly and we keep this design. Also, something stronger and more visible than flexi-posts is needed!
- Totally support the closure of 30th Ave SW and Avalon – safety and livability
- Deviously clever way to obtain community "input" by diluting the presentation into several stands as opposed to a "meeting." This way voices can't be gathered into one concern; just small islands of people, more easily ignored.
- Construct/grab the NW corner of Avalon and create a continuous/dedicated bus lane. No merge = fast bus.
- Distance between mapped ride stop at 35th and Avalon to Luna Park is 0.6 miles. Please don't move Yancy Rapid Ride stop further north as distance to walk to bus stop is too far for handicapped to walk.
- Anyone living in this general area will surely experience some inconvenience during construction. I believe it will be a small price to pay considering the potential improvements. I will hope for the best at the end.
- We support closure of 30th and Avalon, we live at [redacted]. The closure will help with speeding and make our neighborhood safer. I would like to see the triangle of land at 30th/Avalon/Yancy landscaped. Currently it is weeds – in scale need 4 inches high.
- I would like to have someone come into Brookdale West Seattle and talk about how it will impact us and getting seniors out for 911 along with water shut off. These are seniors. Thank you. I look forward to working with you.

Photos from the public meeting on Thursday, March 14

